WOLVERINE®
ORIGINS

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DANIEL WAY STEVE DILLON

WOLVERINE
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The mutant Wolverine has spent a century fighting those who would manipulate him for his unique powers—savage claws, heightened senses, and a healing factor capable of miracles. After repeated brainwashing, torture, and reprogramming, Wolverine's past was as much a mystery to him as to anyone. With those long lost memories finally returned to him, Wolverine has set out on a mission to punish the conspirators who have wronged him.

After Captain America's assassination at the end of the super hero Civil War, Wolverine found himself mourning the loss and thinking about his first interactions with Steve Rogers. During World War II, Wolverine met up with Captain America and his partner, Bucky. While accompanying the two on a mission to take out Hydra's Baron Strucker, Wolverine discovered that his handlers were in league with Strucker, and he was then ordered to kill Captain America.

Captain America created by Joe Simon and Jack Kirby.

FACT O' THE MATTER IS, I REALLY DIDN'T *WANNA* KILL CAP.

BUCKY, I DIDN'T CARE ABOUT ONE WAY OR THE OTHER, BUT *CAP*... THERE WAS JUST SOMETHIN' ABOUT HIM. KILLIN' HIM, THAT SEEMED...*DISRESPECTFUL.*

HELL, I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT.

SHORT AN' SWEET, I *DIDN'T WANNA DO IT.*

BUT I HAD TO DO *SOMETHIN'.*

FIRST THINGS FIRST-- I *NEED TO GET YOU OUTTA HERE.* WE'RE SURROUNDED BY *AMERICAN TROOPS, CAP* COULD SHOW UP AT *ANY TIME* AN' YER *ARMY* IS...

...*GONE.*

BUT I THINK I KNOW A WAY O' *KILLIN' TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE.*

I'M GONNA NEED YOU TO GET AHOLD O' ONE O' YER... *"ASSOCIATES".*

GET UP.

I KNOW YER AWAKE.

LISTEN UP:

I AIN'T GONNA TELL CAP YOU TRIED TO *TAKE ME OUT*--FIGURE I'LL KEEP THAT IN MY BACK POCKET, 'CASE I NEED IT *LATER.*

I EXPECT YOU TO DO THE SAME, *PARTICULARLY* THE PART ABOUT ME ASKIN' ALL THOSE *QUESTIONS* ABOUT 'IM.

WHY *WERE* YOU ASKING--?

OUTTA *CURIOSITY.*

NOW, LET'S GO FINISH THIS MISSION.

GOOD WORK, SOLDIER. PROCEED WITH EVAC--

GOT ROOM FOR ONE MORE?

OUR WAR

CONCLUSION

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"DON'T LISTEN TO 'IM, CAP--HE'S JUST A SORE LOSER. WHAT SAY WE GET THE HELL OUTTA AFRICA?"

YER *PILOT...?*

K.I.A.

WELL, I CAN *COPILOT* THIS THING, BUT...

I'VE GOT THE TRAINING-- *I'LL* DO IT.

EVERYONE ON BOARD. *BUCKY,* YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF STRUCKER. I KNOW YOU WON'T LET ME DOWN.

STEVE, I NEED TO--

TELL ME *LATER,* BUCKY. WE REALLY NEED TO MOVE, HERE.

LET'S GO! DOUBLE-TIME!

CLEAR FOR TAKE-OFF.

GOOD.

I'M ABOUT READY FOR A HOT SLICE OF *MOM'S APPLE PIE.* HOW ABOUT *YOU?*

I @%&$IN' HATE APPLE PIE.

THANKS.
AGAIN.
HELL, I DIDN'T DO NOTHIN' *YOU* COULDN'T HAVE DONE *YOURSELF.*
I'M NOT SO SURE.
I OFTEN FEEL THAT I'M NOT YET *READY* TO LEAD THESE MEN... *LET ALONE* BE *"CAPTAIN AMERICA".*
C'MON, YER A *NATURAL.* DON'T BE SO HARD ON--
I WAS ORIGINALLY CLASSIFIED AS *"4-F"*, LOGAN.
UNFIT FOR DUTY.
YOU--?
YEAH.
BUT I... UNDERWENT A *TREATMENT.* THERE WERE OTHERS WHO WERE PROBABLY MORE *QUALIFIED* BUT...I JUST WANTED IT *SO MUCH.*
TO FIGHT FOR THE DREAM. TO FIGHT *FOR FREEDOM.*
AND TO PROTECT THOSE WHO CANNOT PROTECT THEMSELVES.
NOW, I ALREADY FELT LIKE $%@& FOR WHAT I WAS ABOUT TO DO, BUT THAT *REALLY* KICKED ME IN THE GUTS.
I WAS *BORN* FOR WAR, STEVE--*YOU WEREN'T.* YOU MADE A *CHOICE.*
YOU CHANGED YOUR DESTINY.
AN' THAT WAS SOMETHIN' I'D NEVER THOUGHT POSSIBLE.

WHAT'S OUR LOCATION?

LOOKS LIKE...

...SOMEWHERE JUST EAST OF *ALGIERS.*

WHAT DO YOU THINK--CAN WE MAKE IT TO LONDON WITH THE AMOUNT OF *FUEL* WE'RE CARRYING?

NAH. SOUTHERN FRANCE, *AT BEST.*

NEED TO TALK TO YOU.

SURE.

LOGAN, TAKE THE STICK.

IT WAS AT THAT POINT I STARTED THINKIN' MAYBE BUCKY'D BEEN CONSCIOUS A BIT LONGER THAN I'D *THOUGHT*-- MAYBE HE'D HEARD SOMETHIN'.

BUT I FIGURED *IT DIDN'T MATTER.*

IT WAS TOO LATE TO DO ANYTHING, ANYWAY.

WE GOT BANDITS!

MESSER-SCHMITTS.

MAYBE WE CAN--

KRAATTATTATTATTATTATTA

GET BACK THERE AND STRAP IN!

NOW!

C'MON...

CLIMB, YOU BIG HUNK OF...

STEVE, HE SET US--

MORE BANDITS!
UP TOP!
FWOOM!
KRAATTATTATTATTATTA
BOOM!
B-BOOM!
VIP!
VIP!
GYAHH!
VIP!
VIP!
VIP!

CAP!

CAP!

DEAD STICK, PAL.

WE'RE DONE.

MEANWHILE

KAFF BUCKY!

HERE...

SORRY I... LET YOU DOWN, PARTNER...

STRUCKER'S GONE...

MEDIC!

HERE, S-SIR...

JUST... LEMME...

LET'S--

--WE NEED TO TEND TO THESE WOUNDED!

LOGAN!

LOGAN!

OUT HERE, CAP.

AH. SO ZIS IS ZE AMERICAN *SUPER-SOLDIER*? ZE ONE WHOSE *ADVENTURES* I HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING IN ZIS...

...VONDERFUL PUBLICATION?

IT IS A *PLEASURE* TO MEET YOU.

I AM *BARON ZEMO.*

Captain America

LOGAN, WHAT--?

TELL ME, SUPER-SOLDIER:

IS ZERE ANY TRUTH BEHIND ZESE GLORIOUS FICTIONS?

IT IS VERY IMPRESSIVE ZAT YOU SURVIVED ZE CRASH, BUT... I VOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE. FOR MYSELF.

HERR "LOGAN", IS IT?

TAKE ZE PRISONER INTO CUSTODY, NOW.

IT WAS THE ONLY WAY I COULD GET IT ALL DONE. I HAD TO PROTECT STRUCKER-- FOR SERAPH--AN' THAT MEANT GETTIN' 'IM BACK TO HIS NAZI CRONIES.

AN' THE WAY I SAW IT, CAP HAD A WAY BETTER CHANCE O' SLIPPIN' AWAY FROM THAT KOOK ZEMO THAN HE HAD FROM... "MY" PEOPLE, WHO WERE NO DOUBT WAITIN' IN THE WINGS--IN DJERBA--IN CASE I FAILED.

IT WAS THE ONLY WAY.

WHICH IS NEVER, O' COURSE, THE EASY WAY.

SPLUNCH
TRAITOR!

NEIN.

I VANT TO SEE VAT HE CAN *DO*.

IT'S KINDA HARD FER ME TO KEEP *TRACK* O' THESE KINDA THINGS...

CHOK!

...BUT WHEN IT COMES TO THE *ALL-TIME GREATEST BEATIN'S* I'VE TAKEN OVER THE YEARS, THE ONE CAP LAID ON ME THAT DAY IS DAMN-SURE NEAR THE *TOP*.

KRAK!

ESPECIALLY AFTER THE *SHIELD* CAME OUT.

BRANNGGG!

YEAH, I GOT SOME LICKS IN.

KLANGG!

KAGH--!

BUT UNLIKE CAP...

...MY HEART JUST WASN'T IN IT.

WROK!

HEH-HEH...

SAY *THIS* ABOUT YOU, STEVE...

"...YOU HAD A LOTTA *HEART.*"

KRONG!

I TRUSTED YOU!

AND YOU *BETRAYED* ME! YOU BETRAYED *US!*

YOU *TOLD* THEM ABOUT ME!

Y-YEAH...

K-POW!

POW!

POW!

GYAAAH--!

POW!

DIDN'T... TELL 'EM ABOUT *BUCKY*, THOUGH...

CHAK!

%&@#!

POW!

POW!

POW!

SORRY, CAP...I SHOULD'VE...

HAD TO *RELOAD*...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, PARTNER...

...I'M SURE WE'LL CATCH UP WITH *BARON ZEMO* AGAIN, BEFORE THIS WAR IS OVER.

WHAT ABOUT... *HIM?*

I'M NOT *SURE*, BUCKY. AFTER WHAT I SAW IN *MADRIPOOR*...

...WE MAY JUST SEE *HIM* AGAIN, *TOO.*

I WAS LAYIN' THERE, *DYIN'*, LOOKIN' UP AT THOSE TWO...AN' ALL I COULD THINK OF WAS THAT I COULDN'T WAIT FOR THE BLACKNESS TO JUST *TAKE OVER.*

SO I COULD STOP FEELIN' THIS...*FEELIN'* I HAD IN MY *GUT.*

AN' IT WORKED.

WHEN I WOKE UP, I *DIDN'T REMEMBER A DAMN THING.*

BUT I DO *NOW.*

SNIKT!

YOU HAVE TO LET IT GO.

I CAN'T.

I AIN'T LIKE YOU.

WHAT'S BEEN DONE TO ME AN' MINE HAS GOT TO BE PAID FOR IN BLOOD.

I KNOW YOU WOULDN'T HAVE WANTED ME TO DO THE SAME FOR YOU...SO I'M GONNA RESPECT THAT.

IT'S THE LEAST I COULD DO.

SOLDIER, SYMBOL and SAVIOUR

FRIEND

GOODBYE, STEVE.

END

EPILOGUE:

DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?

NO, BUT I KNOW THE UNIFORM...

GOOD. THEN I CAN CUT RIGHT TO THE CHASE:

WE WANT YOU TO TAKE OUT WOLVERINE.

WE HAVE FORENSIC EVIDENCE THAT INDICATES HE WAS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. LESS THAN TEN HOURS AGO.

DOING WHAT?

DRINKING. AND VANDALIZING A STATUE.

YIKES.

NO WONDER YOU WANT HIM LIQUIDATED.

YOU WILL RECEIVE NO--REPEAT, NO--SUPPORT FROM US. WE WILL MAINTAIN ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM DENIABILITY. OFFICIALLY, THIS MEETING IS NOT HAPPENING. DO YOU WANT THE JOB?

DEPENDS.

ON WHAT?

ON HOW YOU ASK.

WE'RE PREPARED TO ASK WITH TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS, A QUARTER OF WHICH WILL BE RELEASED TO YOU UPON ACCEPTANCE.

I SEE.

IN THAT CASE, I'M PREPARED...

...TO SAY,
"HELL, YEAH."

TO BE CONTINUED